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LETTER DATED 23 JULY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In my previous letters (S/26079, S/26129 and S/26137) I informed the Security Council of the new Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan, which posed a particular threat to the Agdam district with its population of 100,000.

In the evening of 22 July, the Armenian army once again stormed the city of Agdam. On 23 July, after taking the suburbs of Giyasly, Khydyrly and Muradbeily and subjecting the residential districts of Agdam to devastating rocket artillery shelling, Armenian troops entered the city. A considerable portion of Agdam has been seized and in other areas fierce street fighting is in progress.

From intercepted radio messages between the commanders of the advancing Armenian troops it is clear that during the night of 22 July, four infantry battalions were dispatched towards Agdam. This morning these fresh forces were brought into the battle. As things stand at the moment, the operation to storm Agdam is being conducted with all the available forces of the Second Armenian Corps of the Armed Forces of Armenia and the additional forces just brought in from Armenia, comprising four infantry battalions, two tank battalions and five artillery divisions, together with their attendant crews.

At 5 a.m. on 23 July, Armenian troops began an offensive against another district of Azerbaijan, that of Fizuli. As a result, three outlying villages have been occupied and the Fizuli-Djebrail road has been cut off. The town of Fizuli is also threatened with capture. The town is being subjected to intensive artillery shelling from a distance of six kilometres. There is wide-scale destruction and, according to preliminary reports, 11 residents have been killed and 26 wounded.

The above facts clearly testify to the systematic aggressive actions by Armenia undertaken with a view to seizing two new districts of Azerbaijan, those of Agdam and Fizuli, in addition to the Lachin and Kelbajar districts occupied previously. Armenia's aggressive designs are confirmed by its flagrant disregard for Security Council resolution 822 (1993). The valuable efforts by the Chairman of the Minsk Conference, Mr. Rafaelli, to find a solution as soon as possible in order to unblock the conflict, to achieve a cease-fire and to initiate a direct negotiating process are getting nowhere precisely because of the continuing aggressive actions by Armenia. The expanding scale of the occupation of Azerbaijani territory, the death of thousands of peaceful

inhabitants and the destruction of many economic and industrial facilities and social amenities are directly attributable to the impunity enjoyed by the Armenian side.

The Azerbaijani Republic strongly urges the United Nations Security Council to take decisive measures to halt the aggression by Armenia against Azerbaijan.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan A. HASSANOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative